

MAR 11 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND THE
HAWAII PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION TO DEVELOP DRAFT
LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING, IMPLEMENTING, AND MONITORING
CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL LICENSED
PSYCHOLOGISTS IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, the profession of psychology provides critically
2 needed services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a
3 broad spectrum of clients; and

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5 WHEREAS, it is vitally important that psychologists provide
6 the best possible service to their clients; and

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8 WHEREAS, continuing education is essential to help
9 psychologists maintain their professional competency and keep
10 abreast of the latest developments in their profession; and

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12 WHEREAS, Hawaii is one of only six states that do not
13 require continuing education credits as part of their licensing
14 law for psychologists; and

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16 WHEREAS, the American Psychological Association is a
17 membership organization that represents approximately 84,000
18 psychologists across the nation, and the Hawaii chapter
19 represents about three hundred psychologists across the State;
20 and

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22 WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs is
23 charged with protecting consumers through its regulatory and
24 licensing responsibilities; and

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26 WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
27 and Hawaii Psychological Association are currently working
28 together on specific provisions to be included in a bill to
29 establish continuing education requirements for licensed
30 psychologists; and

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32 WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
33 and Hawaii Psychological Association have also identified issues



1 relevant to the requirement for continuing education for
2 licensed psychologists, such as:

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- 4 (1) Ensuring that such requirements do not impose an undue
5 burden on psychologists in rural areas of Hawaii;
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- 7 (2) Using an established, widely recognized non-
8 governmental entity to approve continuing education
9 credits; and
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- 11 (3) Ensuring that the program to implement and monitor
12 continuing education credits for licensed
13 psychologists is cost-neutral to the State; and
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15 WHEREAS, there are currently opportunities offered by
16 approved providers for continuing education statewide, including
17 in rural areas, such as in-person courses, webinars, and
18 teleconferences; and
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20 WHEREAS, continuing education opportunities should be made
21 available to members and non-members of the Hawaii Psychological
22 Association; and
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24 WHEREAS, the joint effort of the Department of Commerce and
25 Consumer Affairs and Hawaii Psychological Association is
26 critical in increasing and maintaining the professional
27 competence of licensed psychologists in Hawaii through a
28 continuing education program; now, therefore,
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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013,
32 that the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Hawaii
33 Psychological Association are urged to continue collaborating on
34 the issue of developing, implementing, and monitoring continuing
35 education requirements for all licensed psychologists in Hawaii;
36 and
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no later than twenty days prior
39 to the Regular Session of 2014, the Department of Commerce and
40 Consumer Affairs and Hawaii Psychological Association are
41 requested to submit to the Legislature a proposed draft for a
42 bill to establish, implement, and monitor continuing education
43 requirements for all licensed psychologists in Hawaii; and
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S.R. NO. 53

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce and
3 Consumer Affairs and President of the Hawaii Psychological
4 Association.
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OFFERED BY:

Ross H. Bell

J. L. M.

Director Kohala

[Signature]

Sharon Chun Oahland

